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M E T H O D

TO PREVENT,

Without a REGISTER,

THE

RUNNING of WOOL

FROM

*IRELAND* to *FRANCE*, L

AND TO

Other FOREIGN PARTS,

In order to RE-ESTABLISH

The Woollen Manufacture of *England*.

Shewing, at the same Time,

How to Raise a FUND, wherewith to  
Erect and Maintain such a Number of *English* PRO-  
TESTANT SCHOOLS in *Ireland*, as the Legislature shall  
think proper; and also greatly to Encourage and  
Extend the LINEN MANUFACTURE of *Ireland*.

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Printed in the Year MDCCXLV.

METHOD

TO PREVENT

WITHOUT A REGISTER

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OF

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IN THE

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PRINTED BY J. M. COX



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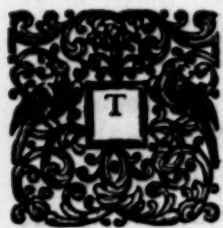
## M E T H O D

TO PREVENT,

Without a REGISTER,

T H E

Running of WOOL, &amp;c.



THE chief and principal Cause of the present flourishing Condition of the Woolen Manufacture in *France*, and of the great Decay of it in *England*, is, that *Those Taxes, which affect the Manufacturer, being much lower in that Kingdom, than in this, Labour is consequently cheaper there, than here.* And tho' it cannot be denied, but that in *Ireland* the Price of Labour is much less, than in *France*; yet it has, from the Year 1699, been an unalterable Maxim of the Policy of the *English* Nation, not to allow Woolen Goods of the Manufacture of *Ireland* to be sent from thence to Foreign Markets. Nor is *Ireland* permitted, but under great Duties, attended with many troublesome and discouraging Circumstances, to import Woolen Commodities of any Kind into *England*. And since it is most evidently true, that *Great Britain*, under her present heavy Incumbrances,

Incumbrances, cannot possibly take off, and work up to Advantage, the spare Wool of *Ireland*, it is for that Reason clandestinely sold to Foreigners (our natural Enemies), and manufactured by them, to our manifest great Loss in every Respect. — As a proper Means therefore towards re-establishing the great Staple of this Kingdom, by making *Ireland* subservient to that good Work, the following Proposal, together with some Reasons to support it, is most humbly offered.

That, under the Sanction of the Legislature, a Charter for the publick Benefit of the Kingdom of *Ireland* be granted, permitting yearly Quantity of Wool, of the Growth and Spinning of *Ireland*, to be manufactured in the *Isle of Man* into Cloth, and other Woollen Commodities: That the Goods so made be allowed to be brought, in the *White*, Duty-free, to some Place or Places in *England*, to be disposed of there, at some publick Hall or Halls, in order to be exported thence to Foreign Parts, under such Restrictions, and Regulations as the Parliament of *Great Britain* shall think proper.

That, by this Licence to that Kingdom, very many illegal Practices, which have long done much Mischief to the Trade of *England* (and which, 'tis humbly apprehended, cannot by human Prudence be otherwise prevented), will be most effectually remedied. From hence too will arise a farther Security for the Obedience and Dependence of *Ireland*; and at the same time the Affections of the People will be gained: For that Numbers of lusty active *Irishmen* will, at the Loom, then get a comfortable Livelihood, and be employed usefully for both Nations, who now, for want of Business, are seduced from Home, to recruit the best Troops that *France* or *Spain* can boast of.

Precedents long approved will justify this Proposal to be for the Interest of *England*; and Examples, in such Cases as these, are look'd upon as the best Guides.

It

It is apparent, that *England* has found it beneficial, for many Years, to permit the Islands of *Jersey*, *Guernzey*, *Alderney*, and *Sark*, to carry Raw-wool from *England*, and, when work'd up into Goods, to send the same, without Restraining, where-ever they please. And there are better Grounds to expect, that the above-mentioned Indulgence to *Ireland* will be far more profitable to *England*, than the said Permission to *Jersey*, and the Three other Islands. For (besides many other Advantages) *Holland*, *Denmark*, *Flanders*, and the Northern and North-western Parts of *France*, will be hereby laid under great Difficulties, to carry on their Woolen Manufactures; it being a Fact not to be controverted, that most of the Woolen Goods of those Countries, were it not for a Mixture of about One Third Part of the Wool of *England*, or *Ireland*, would not be saleable in Foreign Markets.

That *Jersey*, and the Three Islands before-mentioned, by their Situation, have greater Opportunities to smuggle Wool, and sell it to Foreigners, than the People of *Ireland* can have from the *Isle of Man*, is certain; yet long Experience fully proved, that the Liberty of having Wool from *England* has been so far from producing any ill Effects, that the Quantity of Wool, formerly allowed to those Places, has been doubled, by a Clause in an Act of Parliament 1<sup>st</sup> Guil. & Mar. intituled, *An Act for the better preventing the Exportation of Wool, and Encouraging of the Woolen Manufacture*. Nor has that additional Favour, so granted to the aforesaid Islands, been, in the Space of Fifty-five Years, ever discontinued once.

That when our Woolen Manufacture was in its most prosperous State, and when our Wool sold at the highest Rate, *Ireland* then sent abroad no small Quantities of Woolen Goods: Which is almost a Demonstration, that when Foreigners had not *Irish* Wool to work up with their own Wool, they could not rival us in that Branch of Commerce. That the great Cause also, why our Wool was, till within these

Two or Three Years, so much fallen from the Price it formerly bore, is hereby most truly accounted for. But if this Proposal takes place, as much Wool will be kept from Foreigners, as at that time used to be.

That none of the Inconveniencies, which are supposed would arise, by suffering the *Irish* Nation to send Woolen Goods, free from great Duties, directly to Foreign Markets, can in the Nature of Things happen, if this Permission takes place. For tho' the Wool of *Ireland* will be hereby disposed of in a Manner much more advantageous to that Kingdom, than the selling it (as is now done) to *France, Holland, Denmark, and Flanders*; yet *Ireland*, using her utmost Efforts, cannot, under any Colour or Pretence of this Charter, even endeavour to make the Woolen Manufacture a Staple of that Kingdom, or ever attempt to interfere with *England* in that Commodity.

That such a Quantity of *Irish* Wool be permitted to be worked up in the *Isle of Man*, as may induce the Parliament of *Ireland*, for the sake of their own Interest in the Woolen Trade, to make severe Laws against Running Wool; and to take care, that such Laws be duly executed; and also that the Inhabitants of that Kingdom may not be under any Temptation to send their Wool Abroad, as they are now under a Necessity of doing.

That the Establishment of the Navy will be much eased in the Expence of Preventive Vessels, constantly, in the Time of Peace, stationed upon the Coasts of *Ireland*.

That the Corporation having its Spinning done in *Ireland* will make that Part of the Manufacture cheaper, than in any Part of *France*; and it will, at the same time, furnish Work for the Poor of that Kingdom.

The

The *Dutch*, who are justly reputed to excel all the Nations in the World, in the thrifty and frugal Manner of carrying on their Commerce, set us this Pattern. For almost all their Worsted, which they both use themselves, and send Abroad in great Quantities, is spun by Foreigners, out of the Dominions of the States, merely upon account of Cheapness of Wages; and the greatest Part of their fine Broad-Cloth, called *Leyden* Cloth, is manufactured in the like manner. Many more Instances of the same Oeconomy might (if necessary) be alleged. By this prudent Management, the Woolen Trade of *Holland* (tho' wanting every other Advantage, that Nature gives ours) has gone on very prosperously, whilst our Woolen Manufacture has, alas! for many Years, been the Subject of every *Englishman's* Complaint.

If it be objected, That *Irish* Wool, allowed to be imported into *England*, at some particular Ports, will, by granting this Charter, bear a greater Price, than it now usually does. It is answered, That our Manufacturers will most abundantly be made Amends for That, by the Price all our Woolen Goods will then bear in Foreign Markets, which must necessarily, and in a very short time, raise, and constantly keep up, the Price of all the Wool growed in very many Counties both of *England* and *Wales*. For it is the Foreign Demand for Woolen Goods, that regularly creates the Price of our Woolen Commodities; and, upon the Price of Woolen Goods, the Price of Wool chiefly depends. What Advantage can it be to have *Irish* Wool at a very low Rate, when (as the Case was for many Years, till very lately) neither That, nor our own Wool, could be worked up scarce to any Profit? And our Woolen Manufacture wholly owes its present Prosperity to several concurring Accidents, the Effects of which cannot continue. It is doubtless much better to work up the Wool to good Profit, and to pay a better Price for the Wool.

Let it be supposed, by way of Illustration only, That Ireland be permitted to work up yearly, into Cloth undyed, Forty thousand

*and Packs of Wool of the Growth of Ireland, and to be spun into Yarn in that Kingdom, and each Pack to be worth Six Pounds, and to weigh 240 lb.* This Quantity of Wool, when fully manufactured (according to the usual Computation of Clothiers), will be worth about One Million *Sterling*. The Dying, Pressing, &c. in the Manufacturing of it, will be an immediate Profit to *England*; then, the Difference of the Market, and the Returns back will be wholly our Merchants Gain. But the main Design of this Proposal is, that we shall hereby effectually hinder the *French*, and all other Nations, from supplanting and underselling us in Foreign Markets (as they now do) with Woolen Goods, made saleable by a Mixture of a Third Part of *Irish* Wool, as is before-mentioned. And the Value of Goods made from Eighty thousand Packs of Foreign Wool, mixt with Forty thousand Packs of *Irish* Wool, according to the above Computation, amounts to about Three Millions of Money. It is therefore clear, that, by means of this Licence, *England* may dispose of, and vend Abroad, Woolen Commodities, of her own Manufacturing, to the Value of about Two Millions *per Annum*, more than at present she can do. And when we have got Possession of Foreign Markets, our own Manufactures will take a much better Price, and the Value of Wool will rise in Proportion; and our Workmen, in every Branch of the Woolen Trade, will have full Employment, without lowering their Wages. But admitting, contrary to Matter of Fact, that Foreigners do not usually mix their Wool with *Irish*, but only work up *Irish* Wool clandestinely obtained; yet no one, even in this Light, can deny, but that hereby they will be intirely deprived of the Advantage of so doing. And we shall also vend yearly (according to the above Estimate) to the Value of about One Million *Sterling* in Woolen Goods more, and at lower Rates, than we are now able to do, and better and cheaper than Foreigners can then pretend to sell. Besides, that the Profit arising by these Goods will render the *English* Merchant capable of sending Abroad our Woolen Commodities, which otherwise he could not, with Prudence, do.

That,

That, upon Examination, this will be found to have been, for many Years, the true State of the Commerce between *France* and *Ireland*. *France*, as a Kingdom, with its Wines and Brandies, has constantly bought the Wool of *Ireland*, at as small an Expence (at least) as it cost *Ireland*. Then, with Part of the Profit, arising from the advantageous Use *France* makes of that Wool (as is above-mentioned), she has victualled her Fleets with *Irish* Beef and Butter, and furnished her Sugar-Colonies with Provisions, not easily to be procured elsewhere; and the Surplus of the Gain from *Irish* Wool has greatly assisted *France*, in carrying on her dangerous and ambitious Designs.

If *Ireland* should urge, That, after this intended Manufactory is erected, Servants Wages, Officers Salaries, and other necessary Incidents, will make the carrying it on to be somewhat expensive; yet *Ireland* must then acknowledge, that (without making the Goods to come too dear to Market) the Gain produced by the Manufactory will bear such Outgoings; and those too will almost wholly centre amongst her own Inhabitants. And it is not doubted but it will appear, upon a fair Calculation, that, after all the Costs, Charges and Disbursements attending the Execution of this proposed Charter, there will annually remain a Balance of a very considerable Sum of Money, to be applied, by the Parliament of *Ireland*, to the publick Uses of that Kingdom. And then the chief and almost only Obstacle to its Linen-Trade may be removed. For the *Irish* Dealers, having but very small Stocks, are not capable of giving near so long Credit, for Payment of their Goods, as Foreigners do give, and particularly the *Dutch*. But the granting, out of Part of the Gain above-mentioned, Premiums to the Exporters of Linen, would equal that Disadvantage. By this Fund, the Making of Cambricks may be much encouraged, and the Linen-Manufacture, in all its Branches, may be universally cultivated. For, at present, comparatively, but a small Part of *Ireland* goes into the Linen-Trade. By this Fund also, *English* Protestant Schools may be erected and maintained in such Parts of that Kingdom, as are most infected with Popery

and Idleness. Without some publick Endowment, this most useful Charity will never arrive at Perfection, if it can even subsist for any time. And what other Endowment is comparable to an annual Revenue, thus furnished by Industry and Prudence? Nothing can be more plain, than that the Isle of *Man* is, in every Circumstance, the properest Place to receive very many of the Boys brought up in those Schools. This will baffle the Expectations of the Jesuits and Papist Priests of *Ireland*. For tho' this Charity should happen to continue, yet those Agents for the Church of *Rome* do wickedly hope, by their poisonous Influence (assisted by the Authority and Example of Popish Parents), to be able, when the Children return to their several Homes, to frustrate, in a great degree, this most wise and pious Institution. In this Case also, the Children will not be exposed to any Acts of Cruelty from their bigotted Relations.

That the Money spent in *England* by the Absentees of *Ireland*, will be hereby reimbursed. And thus the Exchange of *Ireland* will be brought to Par, not by draining *Ireland* of its Cash, but by *England's* taking off the Produce of *Ireland* when manufactured. And this will be more advantageous to *Ireland*, than if she was furnished from hence, with Specie for that Purpose. And then, and not till then, all the Lands in *Ireland* will rise in Value; and exorbitant Usury, and high Interest for Money, will be restrained, and fall of Course.

That whenever, either at Home or Abroad, any Improvement is made in the Woolen Manufacture, the Trustees, upon Application from the Trading Companies or Merchants, may be obliged, without any Loss of Time, to order their Manufacturers to work after any Pattern, or to conform to any Method, that shall be thought proper.—This will be highly serviceable to our Commerce. It being very difficult to get Manufacturers (tho' they are sure of being well rewarded) to go into any Invention, or to do any thing they are not accustomed to, let it be ever so reasonable in itself, or useful to the Publick.

That

That the Goods, made by the Corporation, may be directed by Law to be measured wet; after which, they will never shrink. They may be also marked in such a manner, as to be always distinguishable; and they may, in all respects, be made so perfectly good, and completely merchantable, as to serve as a Standard of our Woolen Manufacture. Thus, the Lengths, Breadths and Substance of our Cloths, Bays, &c. will become much less exceptionable than of late Years they have been, to the great Loss and Scandal of the Nation.

That due Care be taken not to violate or infringe, in the least, any Rights or Privileges, which the Inhabitants of the Isle of *Man* are justly intitled to.

And here it may not be improper to give some Account of that Island. It is in Length about Thirty Miles, and in Circumference about Eighty-two. The Air of *Man* is very healthy, and it is uncommonly well supplied with good fresh Water, both from many excellent Fountains, and several Rivers, which take opposite Courses through the Island. By Computation, there are settled here betwixt Five and Six thousand Families, reckoning Five Persons to a Family. *Douglas*, its chief Port, can receive conveniently all common Trading Vessels. The Manners, Buildings, and Way of Living in *Man* and *Ireland*, have a very near Resemblance; and Length of Time has made no great Difference in their Language, which was originally the same. Between these Two Places, there has always been a great Intercourse, without any Provincial Pique. *Man* vastly abounds with Fish and Fowl of all Sorts; nor is there the least Scarcity of any Kind of Flesh-meat; and the Island usually yields Grain sufficient for its own Consumption. No Land-Tax is paid here; nor is there any Duty upon Windows, Soap, Candles, Malt, Beer, Ale, Hops, Cyder, Perry, Leather, or upon any thing else, that materially affects Industry. For Salt, upon Entrance, pays only One Shilling *Manks* Money Duty *per* Ton. Coals are commonly bought for about Twelve to Fourteen Shillings *per* Ton; and the Country has Turf and  
Peat.

Peat of its own. An *English* Shilling goes here for Fourteenpence, and all other Money in Proportion. And as Potatoes generally make a great Part of the Food of the People of *Ireland*, the Trustees may send that Root, and all other necessary Provisions from that Kingdom, for the Maintenance of their Manufacturers. In dear Years, the Corporation may have Potatoes from *Lancashire*, and Parts adjacent, as good as in *Ireland*. For *Dublin* Market, upon such Accidents, is, at cheap Rates, always furnished with them from thence; where a very large Tract of Country scarce ever fails of having good Crops. No Part of *Europe*, for its Bigness, is more fertile in Corn, or breeds more Cattle, than *Anglesea*; and it is distant from *Man* not above Eight Leagues. Proper settled Deductions may be made by the Trustees, out of the Workmens Wages, to take care of them in Sicknes, or to keep them comfortably in their old Age in the Places, to which they belong in their own Country. Thus the *Irish* Manufacturers may be supported, and enjoy themselves, as much to their Satisfaction, as at Home in their own Country: Nor will the *Manx* Men have any Cause to complain, that their present Way of Living will, upon any Account, be made more expensive, by the great Number of Inmates residing amongst them. For the Price of Provisions of any kind will not be in the least increased; no new or additional Tax, or Duty, will be hereby occasioned; and the Advantages, that the *Isle of Man* in general will receive, from the proposed Manufactory, are too numerous, and obvious to be insisted upon; without mentioning, that many of its needy Inhabitants may have daily Opportunities of earning the Necessaries of Life, by their Labour; whereas they are now a Burden to the Island.

When it is consider'd, what great Quantities both of Superfine Cloth, and other Woolen Goods, are, from the sorting the Wool, completely manufactured at *Abbeville*, and in a small District adjoining to it, no Doubt can be made, but that the *Isle of Man* may well admit of every thing being easily executed, that is intended by this Plan.

If it should be surmised, that Frauds may be committed, either by working-up *Manks* Wool alone, or by mixing *Manks* Wool with *Irish*, and that thereby the Quantity of Cloth, and Woolen Goods, intended by the Charter, will be exceeded. It is answered, That the Person, who shall attempt such a Practice, would be as stupid as wicked, because he could not avoid being detected. For there are but Two Kinds of Wool in *Man*: The One differs from all the Sorts of Wool, that are known, it being without the Help either of Dye, or any Art, naturally of a yellow Colour, which does not fade, when work'd up into Goods; and the other is of so very coarse a Staple, that no Commodities, but what are of the lowest Value, and for the meanest Use, can be made of it. Besides, that the Spinning, being done in *Ireland*, would also inevitably discover such an Abuse. For from any certain Quantity of Yarn, the Quantity of Cloth, or other Goods to be made, is known to great Exactness: And moreover, to unravel or untwine Yarn spun in *Ireland*, in order to incorporate it with Raw Wool in *Man*, as is done in *France*, and in other Countries, where good Wool is scarce, will not quit cost.

Such Persons as imagine, that the Wool of these Dominions owes its Value and Esteem, chiefly to a national Fondness; or that the Importance of the Woolen Trade is for some particular View magnified; or that such a Charter, as is here proposed, is impracticable; or that the Distance between *Ireland* and *Man* will, in the least, obstruct the Execution of this Scheme; may rectify every one of these Mistakes, by consulting either our own, or Foreign Historians. *Grotius*, whose Knowledge and Impartiality in this Affair cannot be suspected, speaking of the Reigns of King *Edward VI.* and Queen *Elizabeth*, expresses himself thus. *In the last preceding Ages, Commerce was chiefly carried on and directed by certain Cities of Germany (meaning the Hans Towns). By them a Market was fix'd at London. At that time the Pastures of Britain, with the only Produce of their Wool, did almost answer all Importa-*

*tians from Foreign Parts: Altho' nothing was fetch'd out, of  
" the Island, but Raw Wool in the Fleece." \**

No one can pretend sure, that either the Climate or Soil of *France, Holland, Flanders, and Germany*, are changed, since those happy Reigns, when his Majesty's Predecessors, of glorious and immortal Memory, put a Stop to the Exportation of our Wool; and, by settling the Manufacturing of it here, brought into *England* the greatest Part of the Wealth, and Trade of the *Hans* Towns. If the Countries above-named could have furnished *Lubeck*, and the other *Hans* Towns, with a sufficient Quantity of good Wool, they would have kept the Woolen Trade to this Day. For those Towns, in Number Seventy, consisted of the most powerful Nations in *Europe*, incorporated into one Body; and they had been in Possession of the Woolen Manufacture for more than Three hundred Years.

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## The RECAPITULATION.

**I**F the Reason is demanded, Why, for the Purposes above-mentioned, *Ireland*, or some Places in that Kingdom, are not preferred to the *Isle of Man*? It is answered, That the chief Points aimed at by this Plan are, to shew how to prevent Foreigners from having *Irish* Wool, and by what Means the Imputation of *Great Britain's* using *Ireland* with Oppression may be intirely removed, by permitting *Ireland* to work up her Surplus-Wool, in such a Manner as may not only extinguish all national Prejudices, but may also promote and consolidate the mutual Interests of both Kingdoms. And these Views must be accomplished without clashing with any settled Rule of Government, or without making the Dependence of *Ireland* at all precarious; and this Indulgence too must be so guarded,

\* Grot. Annal. de Rebus Belg. L. 7. p. 307 & 308. Fol. Edit.

that 'twill be impossible for *Ireland* ever to transgress it. For all which Ends, it is humbly apprehended, that the *Isle of Man* is most excellently adapted. That Island, by its Situation, naturally affords a most easy, regular, and certain Check against unlawful Practices, and at the same time every thing necessary for the carrying the intended Charter into Execution, may be more commodiously supplied in that Place, than in any Part of *Ireland*. But if this Scheme should be conducted by *Ireland* within herself, the Animosities between that Kingdom and *Great Britain* will be vastly multiplied and inflamed, rather than lessened and abated. Because it will be highly ungrateful, if not impracticable, to employ only *Englishmen* in the Affair; and the *Irish* Commissioners and Officers will, by corresponding and combining with their Relations, Friends or Tenants, commit many Frauds, or we in *England* shall be always jealous of their so doing. And their Proceedings, and our Suspicion, will be attended with great Expence to the Publick, without giving any Satisfaction, or producing any Good. And as for the Superiority or Right of Dominion, which *Great Britain* has over *Ireland* (a Point before touched upon), that will, by this Relaxation of Severity towards *Ireland*, receive much additional Strength. For the Wool of *Ireland*, being manufactured in the *Isle of Man*, would (if there was the least Reason to suspect the loyal Disposition of the Inhabitants of that Kingdom) be a very great Security for their future Obedience.

The

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**The ABSTRACT of *Thomas Lowndes's*  
SCHEME, for preventing the Running of Wool  
from *Ireland* to Foreign Parts, in order to Re-  
establish the Woolen Trade of *England*.**

**Par. 1.** **S**ETS forth the Causes of the Decay of our Woolen  
Manufacture, and of the flourishing Condition of  
the Woolen Manufacture of *France*.

2. Sets forth the Proposition.

3. Sets forth the Utility of the Scheme, if executed.

4. Instances in *Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, and Sark*; and  
alleges, that the Permission to *Ireland* will be more  
profitable to *England*, than the Licence to those Four  
Islands.

5. That those Islands have greater Opportunities to smuggle  
Wool, than can be had from *Man*: And that by a  
Clause in an Act 1mo. *Guil. & Mar.* the Quantity of  
Wool allowed to those Places was doubled.

6. That *Ireland* sent abroad Woolen Goods, when our  
Woolen Manufacture was most prosperous.

7. That *Ireland* cannot, under any Colour of this Charter,  
ever pretend to interfere with *England* in the Woolen  
Trade.

8. That such a Quantity of *Irish* Wool be work'd up in the  
*Isle of Man*, that the Intention of the Scheme may  
be fully answered.

9. That the Establishment of the Navy will be much eased.

Par. 10.

Par. 10. That the Spinning being done in *Ireland*, will make that Part of the Manufacture very cheap, and will furnish Work for the Poor.

11. That the *Dutch* set us this Pattern, in having their Worsted spun out of their Dominions, and with respect to their *Leyden Cloth*, &c.

12. That it will make *Irish Wool*, permitted to be entered at certain Ports of *England*, to bear an higher Price; That Objection answered.

13. A Supposition, by way of Illustration, which shews, what would be the Consequence, if *Ireland* was permitted to work up yearly into Cloth Forty thousand Packs of Wool.

14. Supposing Foreigners do not mix their Wool with *Irish Wool*, yet, in that case, we shall sell to the Value of One Million Sterling in Cloth more than at present.

15. States the Commerce between *France* and *Ireland*.

16. The Objection of *Ireland*, relating to Servants Wages, Officers Salaries, &c. in carrying the Scheme into Execution, answer'd. And shews how the Profit may be applied in erecting and endowing Protestant Charity Schools, and in encouraging and extending the Linen Manufacture in all its Branches.

17. That the Money spent by the Absentees of *Ireland* will hereby be re-imbursed.

18. Shews the Advantages by having Workmen, who must obey Orders, and fall into Methods or Inventions, that shall be found useful.

19. The Cloth made in the *Isle of Man* to be measured wet, which will help to remedy the Abuses as to Lengths and Breadths.

- Par. 20. A Saving of the Rights, &c. of the *Isle of Man*.
- 21. Gives a particular Account of the *Isle of Man*.
  - 22. Shewsh how the Manufacturers may be victualled in dear Years.
  - 23. Answers an Objection relating to the Commodiousness of the Island.
  - 24. Shews that Frauds cannot be committed by working up *Manks* Wool, without being detected.
  - 25. The Conclusion answers some Objections, and shews how the Woolen Manufacture was formerly carried on by the *Hans* Towns of *Germany* incorporated into one Body.

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## The A P P E N D I X.

**T**O the end that a through Judgment may be formed of the afore-going Proposal, and that the Reader of it may be saved the Trouble of very tedious and different Reflections, this Appendix presents a View of all the Methods, that can, with any Probability, be offered to effect that Service, so long and so ardently desired by all true *Britons*; and, to each Method, such Observations and Objections are added, as, 'tis hoped, will be found not wholly improper.

The First Method is a Register.

This, if it could be executed without prodigious Expence, and without creating a Multitude of Officers, and if it would not lay the Growers of Wool under most intolerable Hardships (upon all which Accounts it is justly odious), yet it would be  
ineffectual,

ineffectual, unless the Waste of Wool could be ascertained by Statute; but to do that (with all humble Duty be it expressed), exceeds even the Wisdom and Power of Parliament. For the Waste of Wool arises from the Nature and Condition of the Pasture; the Age and Condition of the Sheep; the Place where the Wool is kept; the Length of Time it is kept; and from many other Causes, which cannot be brought under the Cognizance of Law.

The next is, That *Great Britain* purchase annually of the Kingdom of *Ireland* its Wool, after the Manner following. That his Majesty, or the Lord Lieutenant, on the one Part, and the House of Commons of *Ireland*, on the other Part, name an equal Number of Commissioners to set, as often as shall be thought proper, the Value upon Wool, according to the several Staples. That Money, for Payment of the Wool, be advanced out of the Sinking Fund, and be made good by Parliament.

A Scheme, upon this Foundation, was, a few Years ago, drawn up by myself; and after it had been presented in Manuscript, to the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, it was printed. And the Generality of Persons of the best Judgment and Experience thought it rather a speculative than practicable Proposition. And the chief Design in Writing and Publishing that Paper (as the Lords of Trade were some time ago apprised) was, to take the Sentiments of the Publick, in order to prepare the Way for the Plan now exhibited.

The Third is, That *Ireland* be allowed to make and vend some certain Species of Woolen Goods; and that, under very severe Penalties, she be prohibited the Exportation of any other, but such as shall be enumerated and described in a Law for that Purpose.

So far as this Permission should extend, it is manifest, that *Ireland* would interfere with *England* in the Woolen Trade. But moreover, it is well known, that, in *Ireland*, there is great Plenty of Wool of every Staple; and the Sorts of Wool, that are not proper for those Kinds of Goods intended to be  
tolerated

tolerated (as above), must either be disposed of somewhere Abroad, or worked up into Manufactures at home. Now, it cannot be denied, but that this Licence would afford many more Pretences and Opportunities of carrying on an illicit Trade, than *Ireland* has at present. And was the whole Navy of *Britain* to enforce the strictest Prohibition, and were all the Officers zealously desirous to do their Duty in their several Stations, it would be all to very little Purpose. So exceeding numerous are the Bays, Creeks, and Harbours of *Ireland*; and its Inhabitants, like the rest of Mankind, are naturally inclined to use all Arts and Methods to evade or transgress Laws, that are to their Prejudice.

The Fourth is, That *Ireland* be permitted to send Woolen Goods to such Markets, as *England* formerly did supply, and which the *French* now furnish; particularly many Places, within the Limits of the *Turky* Company's Charter.

This would be a very sure Way of driving *France* out of the Markets of the *Levant*, in which she now triumphs, could *Ireland* be confined to trade to those Places.

The Fifth is, That *Ireland* work up her Wool, and export the Commodities made thereof, without any Restraint whatsoever.

'Tis granted, that this would almost totally hinder the Smuggling of Wool from *Ireland*. But this Proposition is strongly opposed by Two Objections. The First is, That since the Revolution such immense Tracts of Land have been in a manner gain'd in *Ireland*, either by draining Bogs, or grubbing up Woods, that if the free Enjoyment of the Woolen Trade be suffer'd there, it will, in a few Years, be the Cause of so great an Increase of Wool in *Ireland*, that, it is justly fear'd, *England* will be glad of a Market to take off a good deal of her Wool. And the lazy Life of a Shepherd being of all others most agreeable to the native *Irish*; the Lands in their Occupation, and which are at present either plowed, or used in other Kinds of Agriculture, would be immediately thrown up, and turn'd into Sheep-Pastures.

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The other Objection is, That it cost *England* a vast deal of Blood and Treasure, for the Space of about Four hundred Years, to subdue *Ireland*, when *Ireland* was quite rude in the Art of War, and altogether without Alliances, Shipping, and Commerce, and can it then be thought, that the Parliament of *Britain* will ever consent to fix and establish, in *Ireland*, that Manufacture, which is the chief Source of all the Trade and Wealth, that *England* either ever had, or ever can have? But they, who espouse this Fifth Method, warmly assert, That, if *Ireland* had the Liberty thereby proposed, all the Moneys, gained by *Ireland*, would necessarily come to *England*, without ever circulating back again: Which Position they endeavour to prove by this Argument. That not any Addition has been made to the Cash of *Ireland*, tho' the Balance of Trade between *England* and *Ireland* has constantly, for many Years, been much in Favour of *Ireland*. To which it is answered, That it is admitted, that the Balance gained by *Ireland* has, by Estimation, for several Years last past, been a little more than Four hundred thousand Pounds *per Annum*: And it is also granted, That the Quantity of Gold and Silver in that Kingdom is pretty much the same it was before that time: But it is wrong to conclude, that because a Balance of about Four hundred thousand Pounds *per Annum* has not increased the current Species of *Ireland*, that therefore a much greater Sum will not; such as would most certainly arise from an unlimited Woolen Trade in all its Branches. Unless any one should fondly imagine, that because many Noblemen, and Gentlemen of Distinction, having, for the most part, large Estates both in *England* and *Ireland*, chuse to live in *England*, and to spend the Profits of their *Irish* Estates here, that therefore the lesser Gentlemen, Merchants and Tradesmen of *Ireland*, who have no Fortunes in *England*, will annually come over hither, to spend all the Money got by the Improvement of the Commerce of their Country; not that it is in the least denied, that the Money expended in *England* will be in Proportion to the Intercourse between the Two Kingdoms.

The Sixth and last Method is, That *Ireland* work up her Wool (be the Quantity what it will), and export the Commodities made thereof, either dyed, or in the White, to *Great Britain* only; and that *Ireland* be prohibited, under very severe Penalties, from sending any Woolen Goods to any other Place.

The First Objection to the last preceding Method holds good against the First Part of this Proposition; and, for Answer to the subsequent Part, the Reader (to avoid Repetition) is referred to the Observation made upon the Second Part of the Third Method; in which Place Prohibitions are considered.

But here I beg Leave to remark, That it is urged, that the Parliament of *Great Britain*, for a certain Number of Years, by way of Experiment, may, with great Prudence, indulge *Ireland* with either of the last preceding Methods. To which it is answered, That the Result of such a Trial must be one of these Two Consequences. If, upon the Expiration of the Licence, *Ireland* should continue contumaciously to carry on the Woolen Manufacture, then either a Rebellion, or the Loss of the Woolen Trade of *England*, or, at least, a very great Detriment to it, will ensue. But, if *Ireland* should obey the Restriction, then such of the Manufacturers, as shall be of the *Irish* Nation, will be forced, being destitute of Work whereby to subsist, and being also generally Papists, to go into Foreign Countries: And those Manufacturers, that shall be *Englishmen*, if any advantageous Offers shall be made to them by foreign States (who never fail to lay hold of such Opportunities), will be much more inclined to accept of them, than to return and settle in their own Country: Where, by their Absence, they will have lost their former Acquaintance and Correspondence.

If any one, through Inadvertency, should suppose, that the Plan hereby explained, and endeavoured to be justified, may be better carried on by private Persons; he is desired to reflect, that, unless it be executed under a publick Charter, no Advantage can redound from it, either to the Linen Manufacture, or to the Charity of *English* Protestant Schools. But, if the  
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intended Encouragement for extending the Linen Manufacture takes Place, that will indubitably lessen the future Growth of the Wool of *Ireland*. And that Branch of Trade being the Staple of *Ireland*, it will not be unpopular or disgraceful to give Informations or Evidence, when the Laws are transgressed with relation either to Wool, or Woolen Goods; because the Linen Trade of *Ireland* will be very much hurt by such Offences. And the Reader is desired to observe, that the singularly great Benefit, going to be mentioned, cannot accrue to *England* by any other way. Long Experience both at Home and Abroad shews, that Riches lodging with private Persons always introduce Luxury, and Luxury both makes Labour dear, and is the Mother of Idleness, which is the Bane of Trade. But, in this Case, the Wealth got will come solely to the Publick (without the least Tendency to enrich any one Man, or any particular Set of Men), and *Great Britain* will for ever have a Succession of a considerable Body of industrious, skilful Workmen in the Woolen Manufacture (not liable to be debauched, and thoroughly well provided for) at a much cheaper Rate, than *France*, or any other Kingdom or State in *Europe*, either now, or hereafter can have. And the Proposal, to which this Appendix belongs, is so much the Reverse of a Monopoly, that that detestable Word cannot be objected, but by the grossest Ignorance.

THESE PAPERS drawn up, with a sincere Intention to countermince Monsiur *Colbert's* Scheme, which has had such mischievous Effects upon the whole Woolen Manufacture of *England*, and has in particular brought her *Levant* Trade to its present low Ebb, I think I cannot conclude better, than with most humbly and most earnestly wishing, that a Remark of the learned Doctor *Davenant* may not be verified upon this Occasion. For that Gentleman says, *That it has ever been the Humour of Englishmen to reject all Things, which they cannot carry just according to their present Fancy: Many good Designs for the Publick being lost, by endeavouring to make the First Projection too perfect.*

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## The ABSTRACT of the APPENDIX.

**T**HE APPENDIX sets forth all the Methods that can, with Probability, be offer'd to prevent the Running of Wool from *Ireland* to *France*, and to other Foreign Parts, with Observations upon each Method.

First Method is a Register.

The Second is, That *Great Britain* purchase annually of the Kingdom of *Ireland* its Wool.

The Third is, That *Ireland* be allowed to make, and vend some certain Species of Woolen Goods: And that, under very severe Penalties, she be prohibited the Exportation of any other, but such as shall be enumerated, and described in a Law for that Purpose.

The Fourth is, That *Ireland* be permitted to send Woolen Goods to such Markets, as *England* formerly did supply, and which the *French* now furnish, particularly many Places within the Limits of the *Turkey* Company's Charter.

The Fifth is, That *Ireland* be permitted to work up her Wool, and to export the Commodities made thereof without any Restraint whatsoever.

The Sixth Method is, That *Ireland* be permitted to work up her Wool (be the Quantity what it will), and to export the Commodities made thereof, either dyed, or in the White, to *Great Britain* only; and that *Ireland* be prohibited, under very severe Penalties, from sending any Woolen Goods to any other Place.